

Amendments to the Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A brake system for applying a braking force to a vehicle wheel responsive to a brake force control signal comprising:

a rotor connected for rotation with the vehicle wheel;

a plurality of hydraulic actuators for engaging the rotor to apply the braking force, each hydraulic actuator having:

a working inlet and a working outlet through which a working fluid can be pumped in and out, respectively, responsive to rotation of the rotor;

wherein the working inlets of the plurality of hydraulic actuators are interconnected and the working outlets of the plurality of hydraulic actuators are interconnected;

a brake control unit in fluid communication with [between] the working inlets and the working outlets, and operable [,] responsive to the brake force control signal in a brake-off position and a brake-on position, the [, between a] brake-off position [,] providing substantially unrestricted fluid communications between the working outlets and the working inlets [,] and the [a] brake-on position [,] providing restricted fluid communications between the working outlets and the working inlets in proportion to the brake force control signal; and

a by-pass valve in fluid communication with [between] the working outlets, [outlet and] the brake control unit and the working inlets, and operable in a by-pass off position and a by-pass on position, the [between a] by-pass off position [,] providing substantially unrestricted fluid communications between the working outlets and the brake control unit [,] and the [a] by-pass on position [,] providing substantially unrestricted fluid communications between the working outlets and the working inlets thereby by-passing and negating the effect of the brake control unit.

Claim 2 (Original) The brake system of claim 1, the rotor further comprising:

a substantially disc-shaped main body having two opposed faces; and

a cam surface on each of the two opposing faces;

wherein each of the plurality of hydraulic actuators engagable with one of the cam surfaces.

Claim 3 (Original) The brake system of claim 2, wherein each of the plurality of hydraulic actuators for engaging one of the cam surfaces engages a different portion of a profile of the cam surface.

Claim 4 (Original) The brake system of claim 2, wherein an equal number of the plurality of hydraulic actuators can engage each of a first and a second of the cam surfaces.

Claim 5 (Original) The brake system of claim 2, wherein each of the plurality of hydraulic actuators further comprises a rolling interface for engaging one of the cam surfaces with substantially no frictional resistance to rotation of the rotor relative to the actuator.

Claim 6 (Original) The brake system of claim 1, wherein the brake force control signal is selected from the group consisting of an electric signal, a hydraulic pressure signal and a pneumatic signal.

Claim 7 (Original) The brake system of claim 5, each of the plurality of hydraulic actuators further comprising:

- a hydraulic cylinder;
- a piston for reciprocating movement in the hydraulic cylinder and separating the hydraulic cylinder into a working cavity and an opposing cavity that expand and contract in volume responsive to the back and forth movement of the piston;
- a plunger, connected to the piston, retracting into and extending from the hydraulic cylinder responsive to the reciprocating movement of the piston; and
- a resilient element biasing the plunger to extend from the hydraulic cylinder;

wherein the rolling interface is disposed at an end of the plunger extending from the hydraulic cylinder.

Claim 8 (Original) The brake system of claim 7, each of the plurality of hydraulic actuators further comprising a flow direction valve, operable between an actuator-engaged position and an actuator-retracted position, controlling fluid communication between the working cavity and the opposing cavity and between the working cavity and the brake control unit;

wherein the hydraulic actuator is free to engage the rotor when the flow direction valve is in the actuator-engaged position and the hydraulic actuator is retained from engagement when the rotor with the flow direction valve is in the actuator-retracted position.

Claim 9 (Original) The brake system of claim 8, wherein the flow direction valve is operated into the actuator-engaged position and the actuator-retracted position responsive to the brake control unit being operated into the brake-on position and the brake-off position respectively.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended) A brake system comprising:

a rotor connected for rotation with a vehicle wheel; and

a plurality of brake sub-systems each having:

a hydraulic actuator engagable with the rotor for applying a brake force having:

a working inlet and a working outlet through which a working fluid can be pumped in and out, respectively, responsive to rotation of the rotor;

a brake control unit in fluid communication with [between] the working inlet and the working outlet, and operable [,] responsive to the brake force control signal in a brake-off position and a brake-on position, the [, between a] brake-off position [,] providing substantially unrestricted fluid communications between the working outlet and the working inlet [,] and the [a] brake-on position [,] providing restricted fluid communications between the working outlet and the working inlet in proportion to the brake force control signal; and

a by-pass valve in fluid communication with [between] the working outlet, [outlet and] the brake control unit and the working inlet, and operable in a by-pass off position and a by-pass on position, the [between a] by-pass off position [,] providing substantially unrestricted fluid communications between the working outlet and the brake control unit [,] and the [a] by-pass on position [,] providing substantially unrestricted fluid communications between the working outlet and the working inlet thereby by-passing and negating the effect of the brake control unit;

wherein the working inlets of the plurality of brake sub-systems are interconnected and the working outlets of the plurality of brake sub-systems are interconnected.

Claim 11 (Original) The brake system of claim 10, the rotor further comprising:

a substantially disc-shaped main body having two opposed faces; and
a cam surface on each of the two opposing faces;
wherein each of the hydraulic actuators engageable with one of the cam surfaces.

Claim 12 (Original) The brake system of claim 11, wherein each of the hydraulic actuators for engaging one of the cam surfaces engages a different portion of a profile of the cam surface.

Claim 13 (Original) The brake system of claim 11, wherein an equal number of the hydraulic actuators can engage each of a first and a second of the cam surfaces.

Claim 14 (Original) The brake system of claim 11, wherein each of the hydraulic actuators further comprises a rolling interface for engaging one of the cam surfaces with substantially no frictional resistance to rotation of the rotor relative to the actuator.

Claim 15 (Original) The brake system of claim 10, wherein the brake force control signal is selected from the group consisting of an electric signal, a hydraulic pressure signal and a pneumatic signal.

Claim 16 (Original) The brake system of claim 14, each of the hydraulic actuators further comprising:

a hydraulic cylinder;
a piston for reciprocal movement in the hydraulic cylinder and separating the hydraulic cylinder into a working cavity and an opposing cavity that expand and contract in volume responsive to the back and forth movement of the piston;
a plunger, connected to the piston, retracting into and extending from the hydraulic cylinder responsive to the reciprocal movement of the piston; and

a resilient element biasing the plunger to extend from the hydraulic cylinder;
wherein the rolling interface is disposed at an end of the plunger extending from the hydraulic cylinder.

Claim 17 (Original) The brake system of claim 16, each of the hydraulic actuators further comprising a flow direction valve, operable between an actuator-engaged position and an actuator-retracted position, controlling fluid communication between the working cavity and the opposing cavity and between the working cavity and the brake control unit;

wherein the hydraulic actuator is free to engage the rotor when the flow direction valve is in the actuator-engaged position and the hydraulic actuator is retained from engagement when the rotor with the flow direction valve is in the actuator-retracted position.

Claim 18 (Original) The brake system of claim 17, wherein the flow direction valve is operated into the actuator-engaged position and the actuator-retracted position responsive to the brake control unit being operated into the brake-on position and the brake-off position respectively.